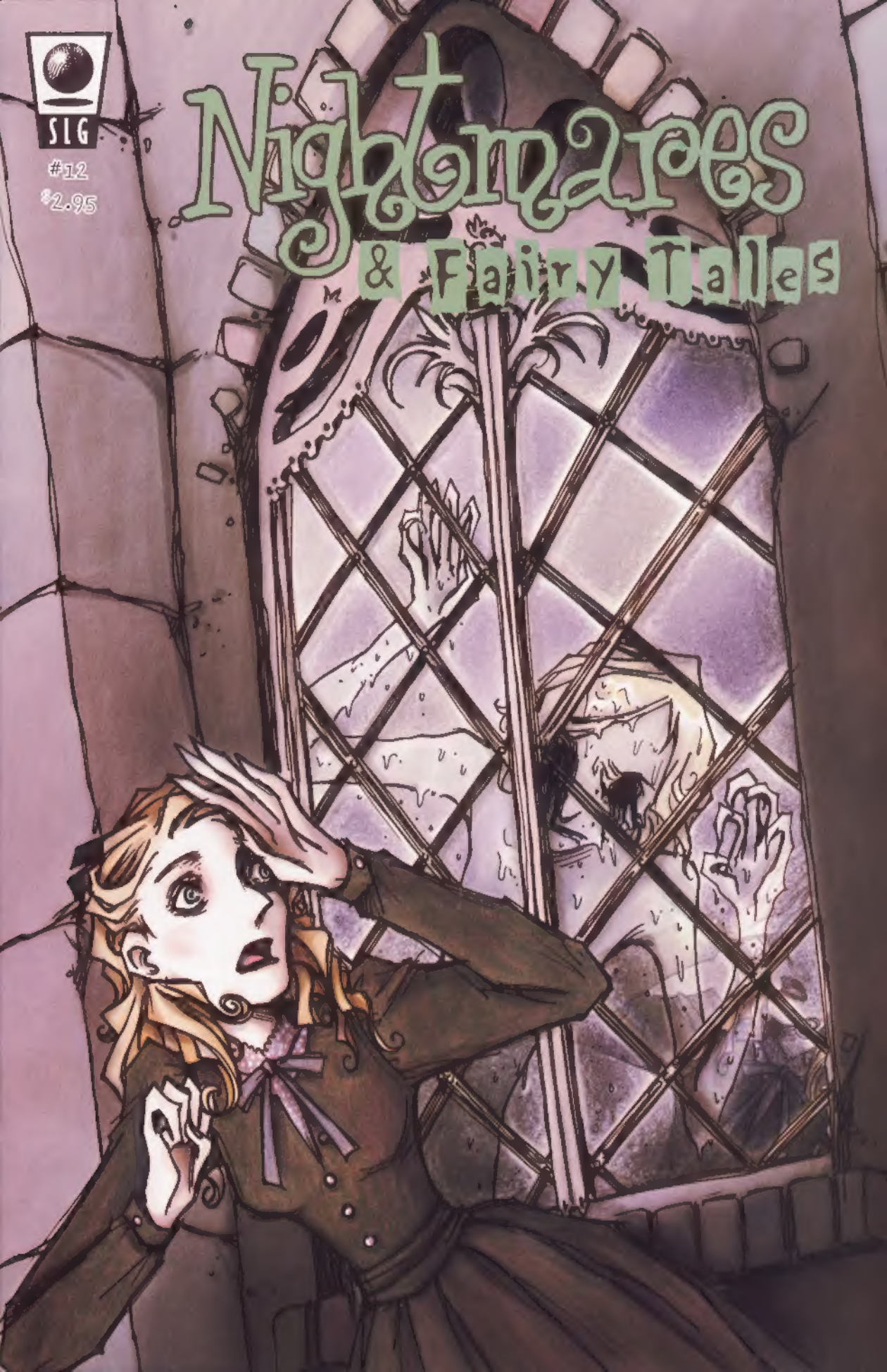
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Nightmares
& Fairy Tales

Nightmares and Fairy Tales, Issue 12

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Art – FSc

Lettering – Joshua Archer

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A Woman Possessed!: Part Two

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Printed in Canada

Catherine!
Catherine!
What happened?
I don't know, Victor.
Come, my darling.
You look like you could use a good meal.

What were you doing in Vivian's old room?
I don't know.
I think I had some sort of nightmare.
Perhaps I was sleepwalking.
You don't look well at all.
Perhaps you should take your breakfast in bed.
Perhaps you're right, dear.
I'm sorry I've ruined our plans to picnic on the island today.
It's just as well.
It's a miserable, dreary day.
So it seems.

Good morning, Betty.

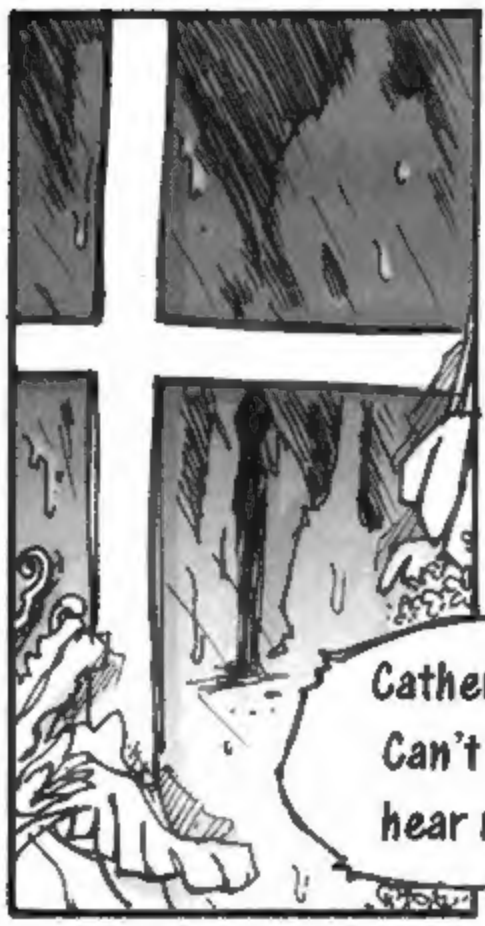
I trust you slept well.

RSSS...

PATA
PATA
PATA

Darling?
?

Catherine?


Catherine! Can't you hear me?

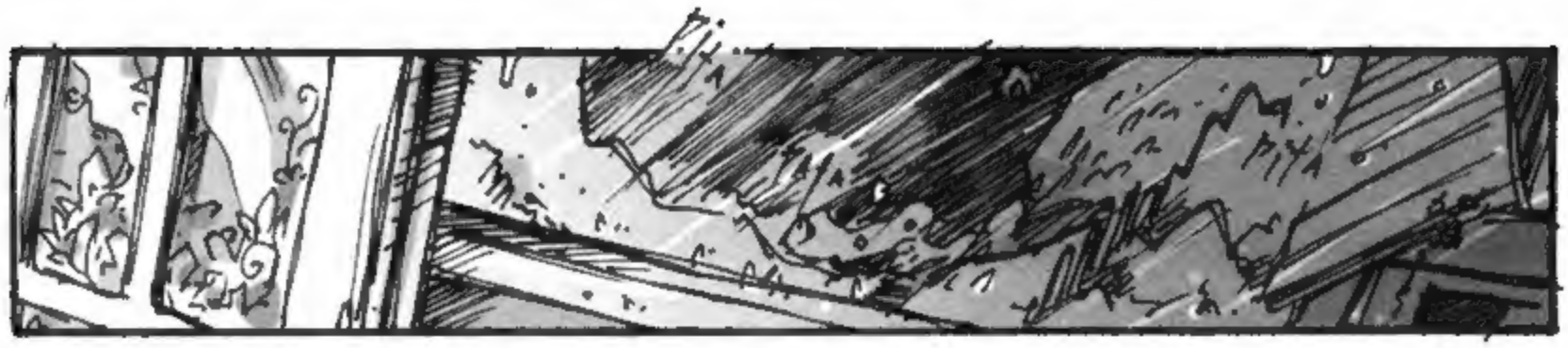
... ...
Darling, what is it?

!!

Darling, what's got you so frightened?

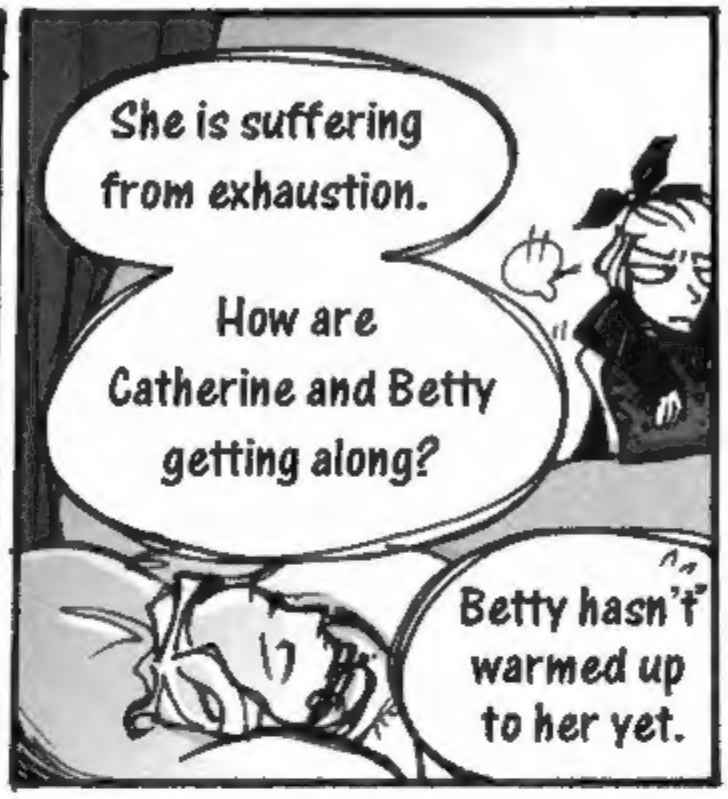
?
By the trees...

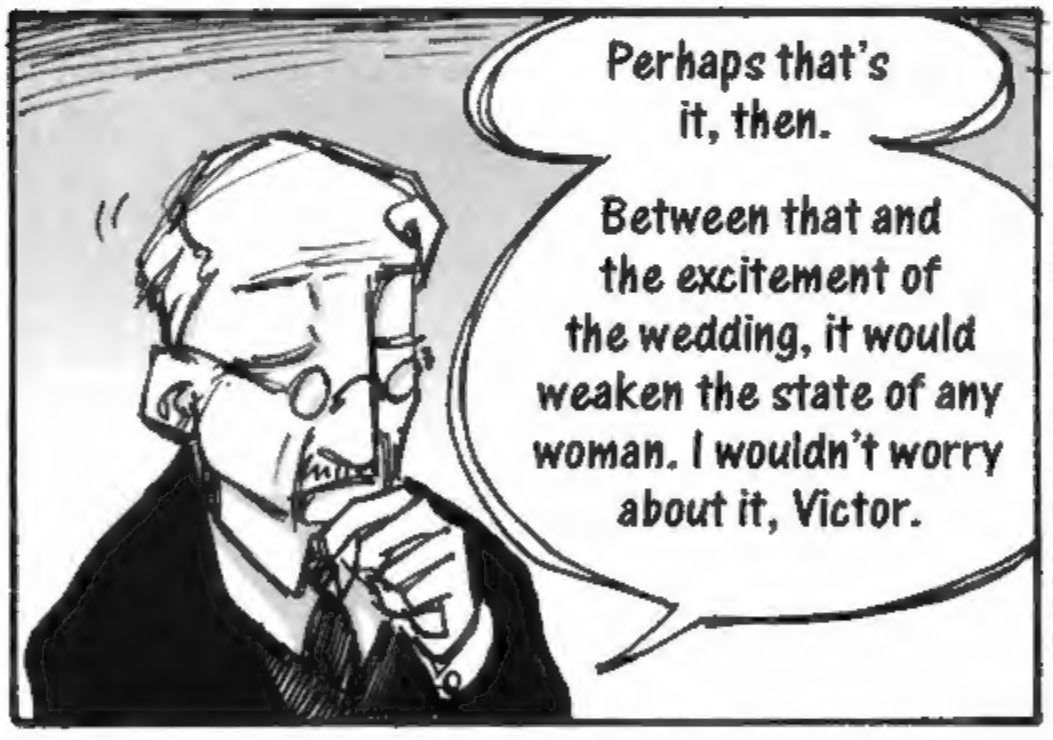
There's nothing...there, Catherine.
Don't you see her? She's standing right there!
Look at me, Catherine! There's nothing there.
You need to calm yourself.
Come away from the window, Catherine.
But... but, she was there.
Betty.
Call the doctor. Your stepmother is ill.



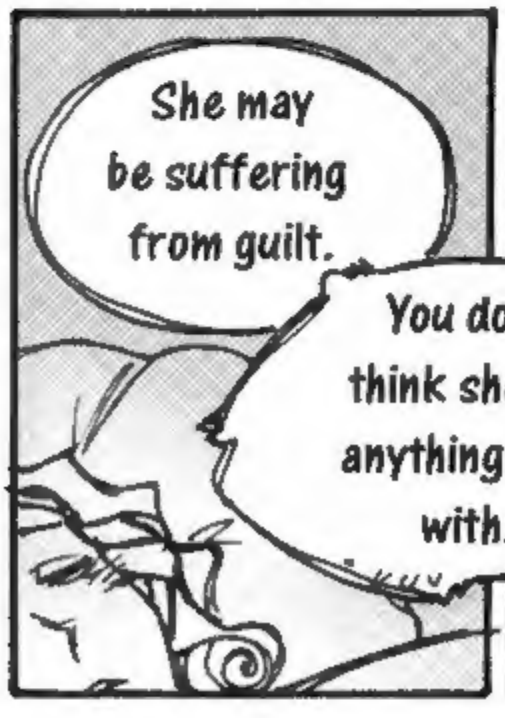
I gave her something to calm her nerves. Call me if she has another episode.

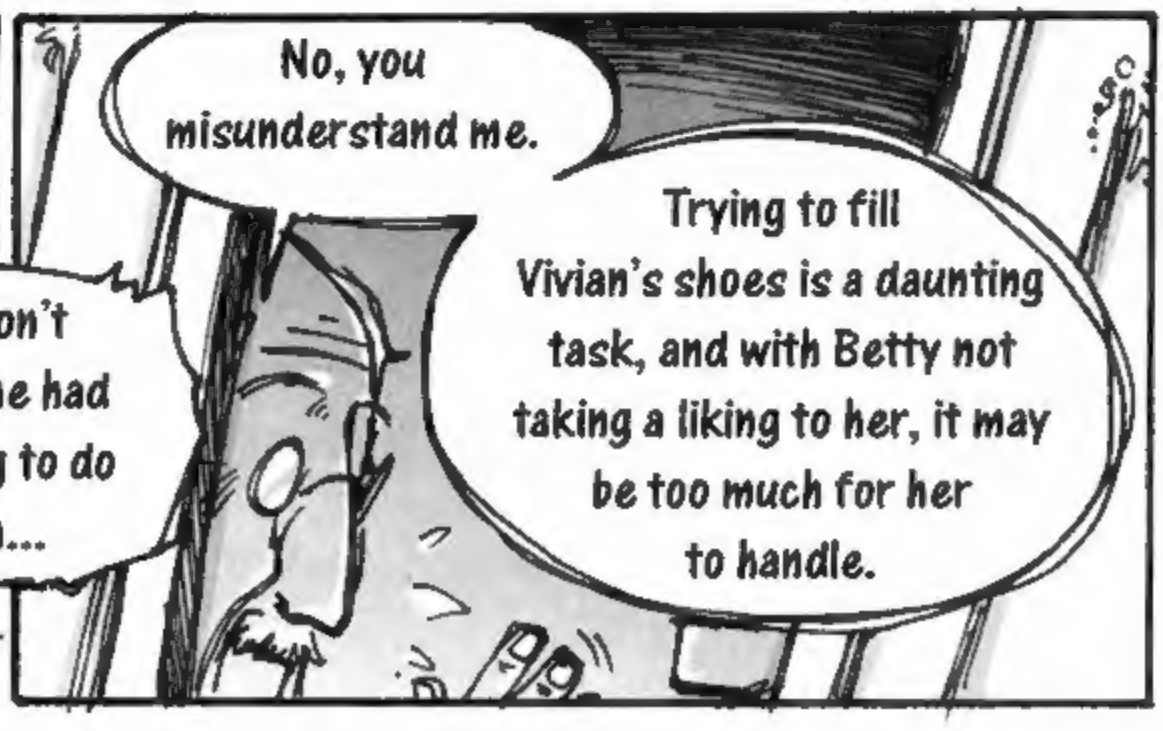
What's wrong with her?


She is suffering from exhaustion.
How are Catherine and Betty getting along?
Betty hasn't warmed up to her yet.


Perhaps that's it, then.
Between that and the excitement of the wedding, it would weaken the state of any woman. I wouldn't worry about it, Victor.

I found her lying in Vivian's old room. She said she had a nightmare...
...that she had been sleepwalking.

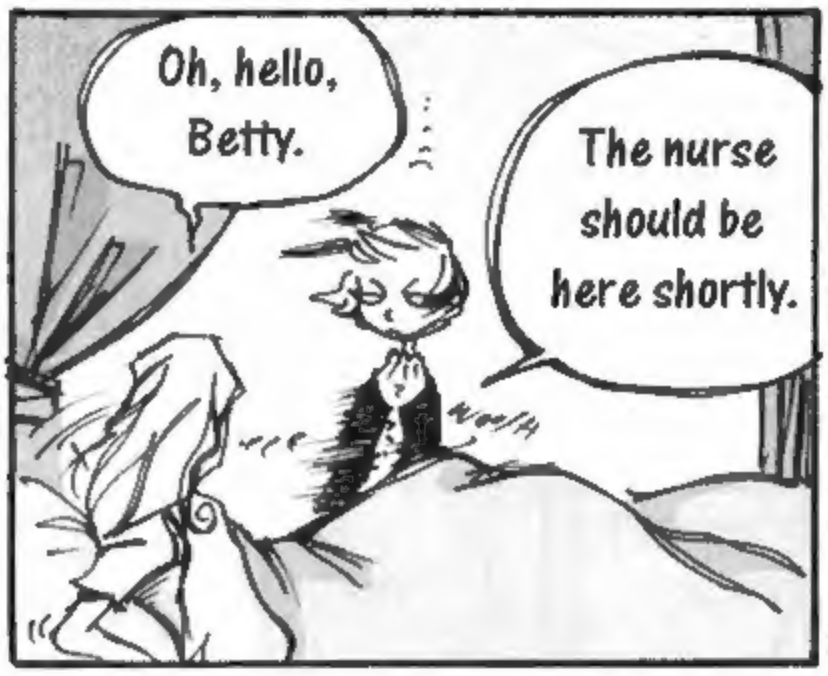

She may be suffering from guilt.
You don't think she had anything to do with...


No, you misunderstand me.
Trying to fill Vivian's shoes is a daunting task, and with Betty not taking a liking to her, it may be too much for her to handle.

Oh, I see.
Just make sure she gets plenty of rest.
There's no need to worry yourself, Victor. She'll be back to herself again in no time.
... ...
You look weary, Father.
I'll sit up with Catherine until the nurse gets here. You go on to bed.
I don't want to leave her.
Please, you need your rest.
Thank you, dear heart.

Victor?

He's gone to bed.


Oh, hello, Betty.
The nurse should be here shortly.

I heard the doctor. He says you're suffering from guilt.
... ...
Please leave me alone, Betty.

Nurse?

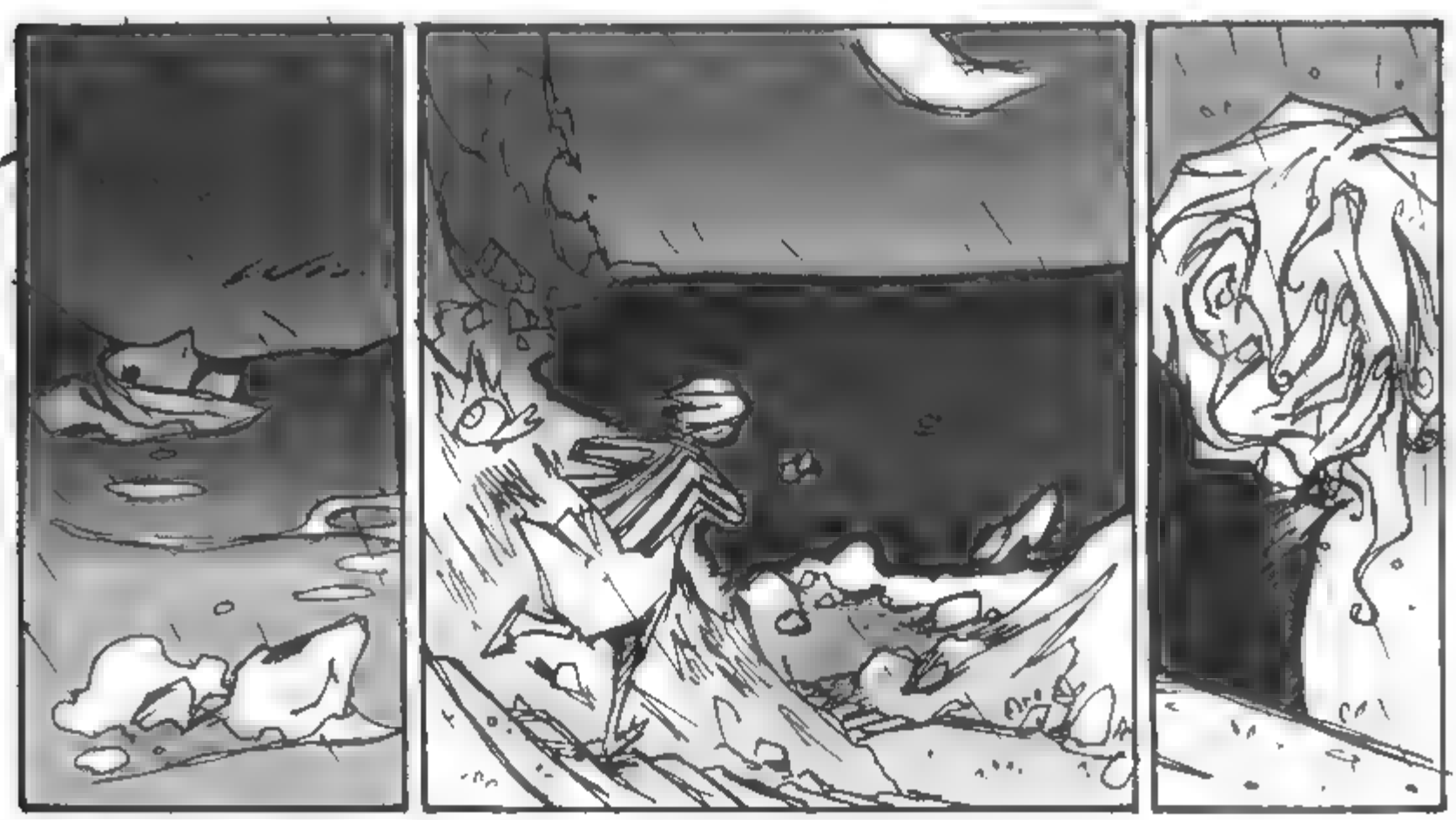
I wonder if the nurse will be pretty.
Perhaps Father will fall in love with her.

... ...

There's nothing there. You're seeing things again.

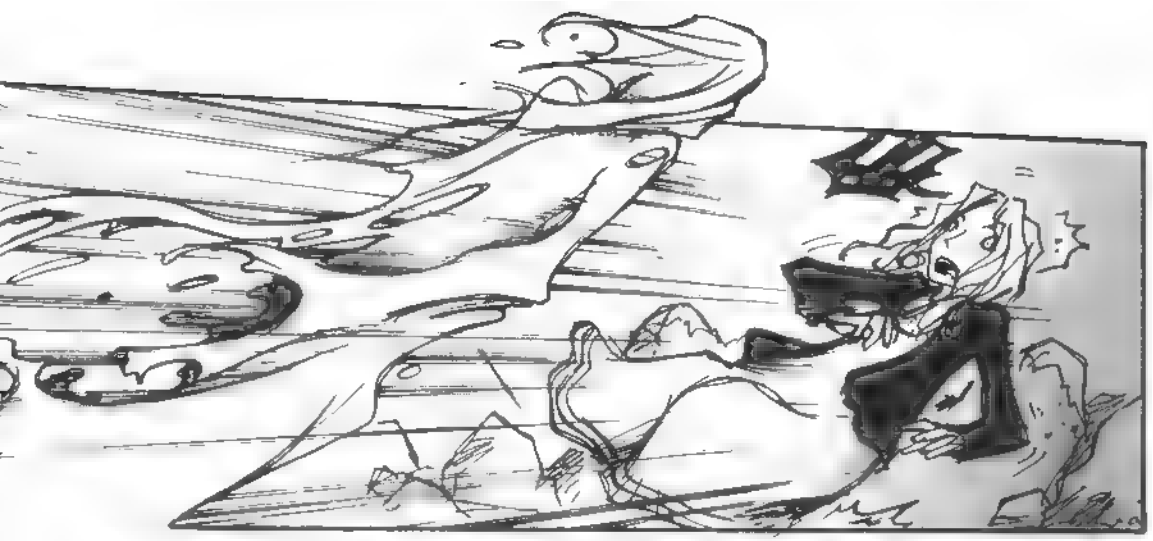
Betty!
Betty, please help me.

Betty!
Betty!



Come to me, my little angel.
No! Betty, don't!
This isn't happening!

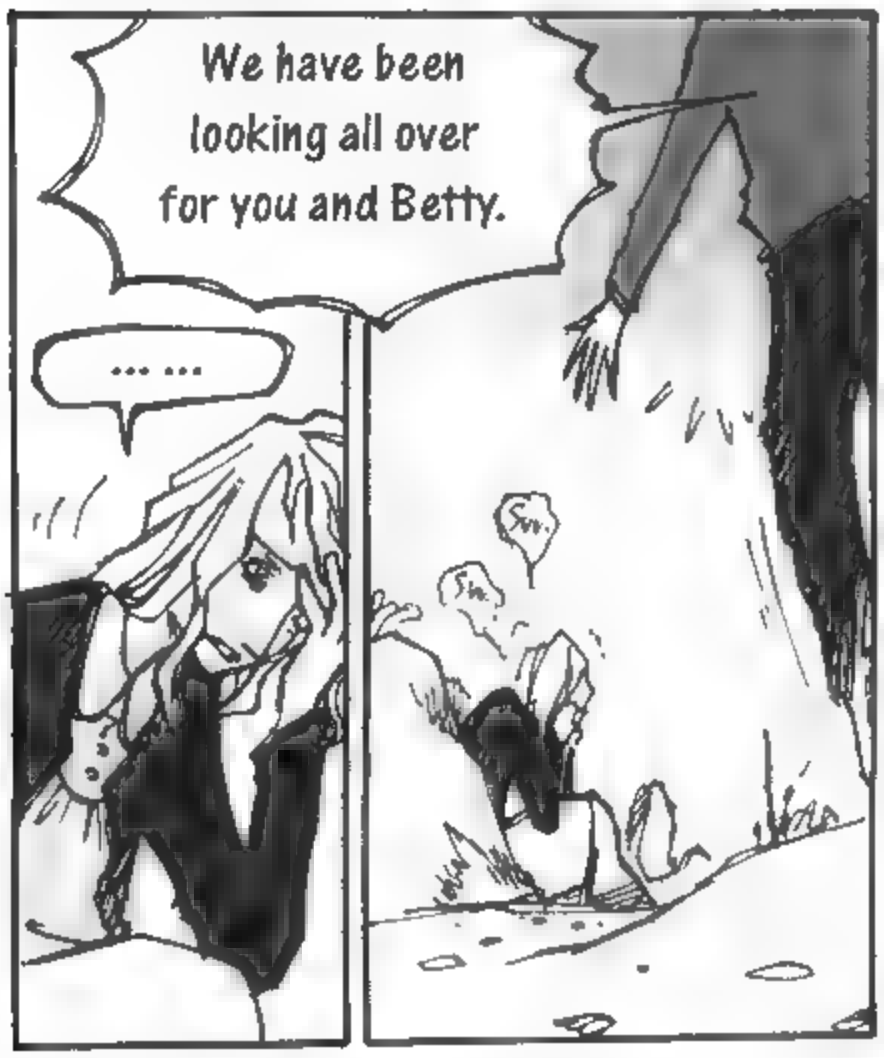
What have you done?
You killed your own daughter!
I didn't kill her...
...you did.
... ...
What do you want of me?
Heh.



I want you to suffer...
...just as I have.

Catherine!

Catherine!


We have been looking all over for you and Betty.
... ...

What's the matter, dear?
Where's Betty?

Vivian killed her!

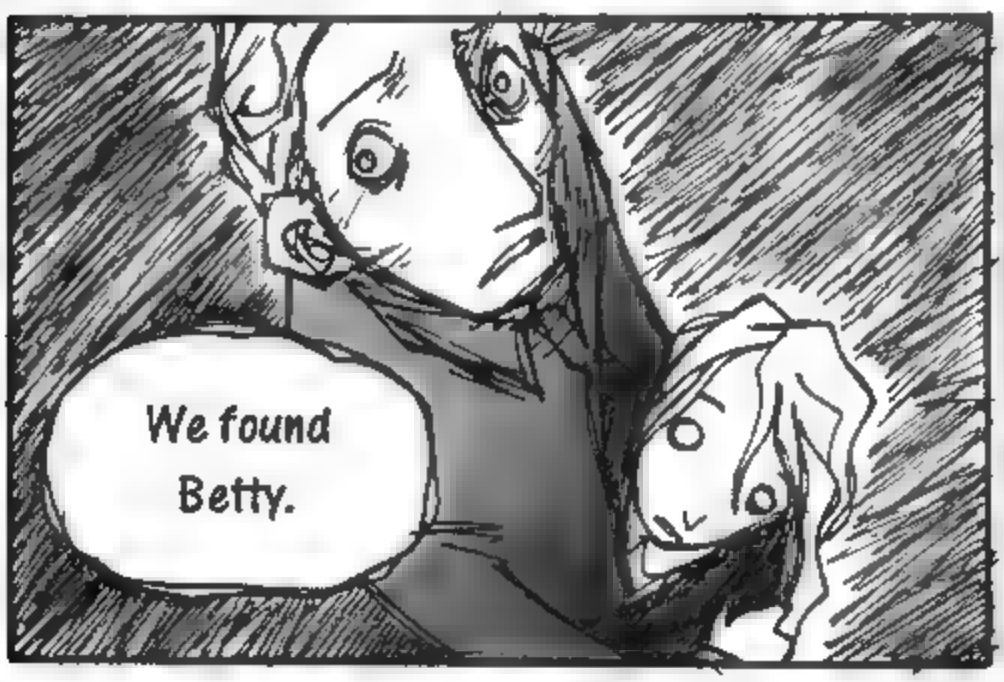
... ...

Don't look at me like that. I'm not insane!

I know what I saw, Victor!

Mr. Harper!

Mr. Harper! Come quick!
?


We found Betty.

What have you done?
?!
It wasn't me! It was Vivian!
You killed my baby girl!
I swear it was!

FLAT.
Victor, you have to believe me!
You know I'm not capable of this!
I don't know what to believe anymore, Catherine!
Victor, please!

Ksss...

How are you feeling?

I had to give you something to calm your nerves. You'll feel better after you've eaten something.
Where am I?

The hospital.

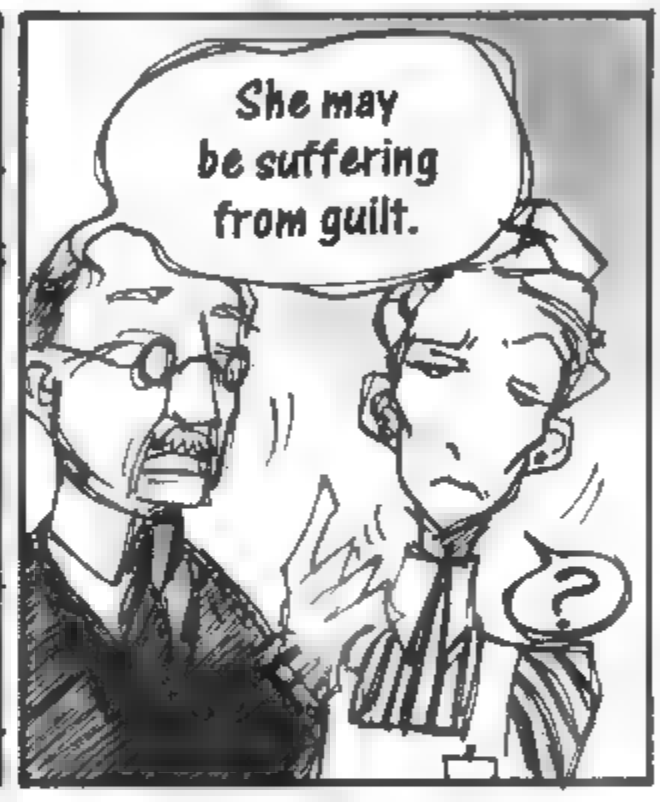
What kind of hospital is this?
I want you to get my husband! Does he even know I'm here?

Yes, Mrs. Harper, he admitted you this morning himself.
flap

He doesn't really think I killed...
...Betty?

I wonder if the nurse will be pretty.

Perhaps Father will fall in love with her.


She may be suffering from guilt.
?

I know you killed my mother!
What have you done? You killed my baby girl!

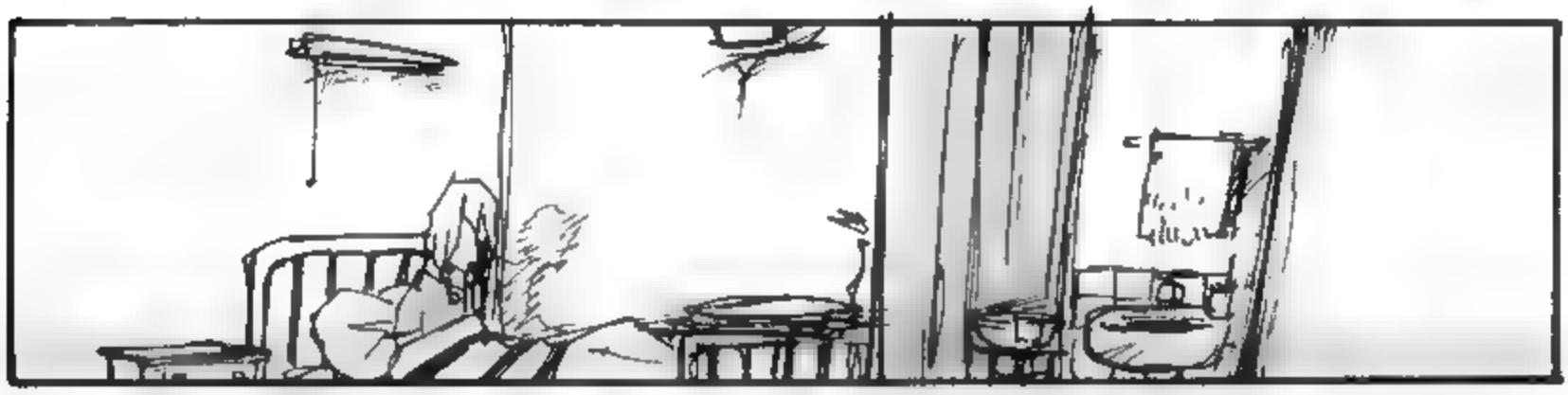
No! I didn't do it! I didn't! It was Vivian!
You have to believe me!

Please take this off of me!
I'm not insane!

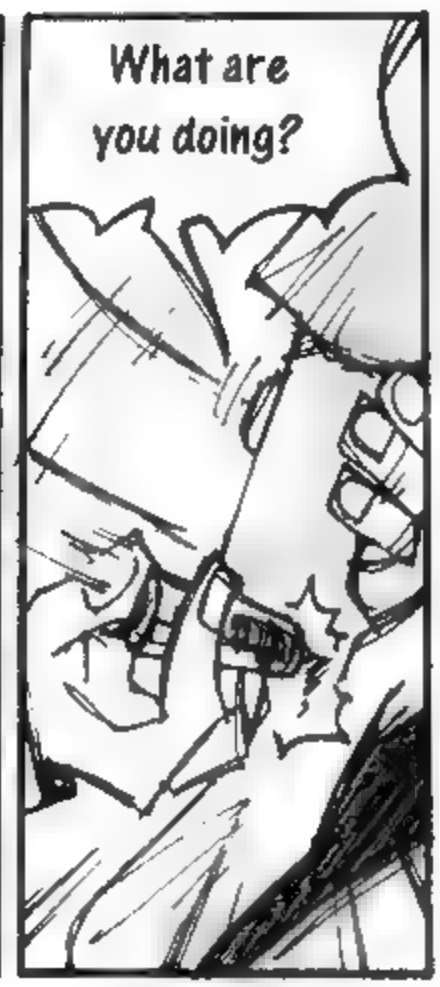
Why are you treating me this way?
And how should we treat a woman who killed a child and her mother?

... ...

I am not a murderer!



Doctor, please! You have to listen to me.
I didn't do it!


What are you doing?

Are you feeling better?
There.
Why is this happening?
I'm very sorry this has happened, Catherine.
I don't understand.
... ...
You don't remember, then?
You told me the entire story.
You're really not to blame, not completely, anyway.
You were under sedation...
...I suppose you wouldn't remember.
What story?

Vivian treated you appallingly, Catherine.

You can hardly be blamed for your actions on that account.
I believe the guilt caused you to believe her ghost was haunting you...

...pushing you further over the edge, until you could no longer control your actions.

And Betty...
...did I kill her as well?

I'm afraid so.
I told you this?
Yes. I'm sorry.

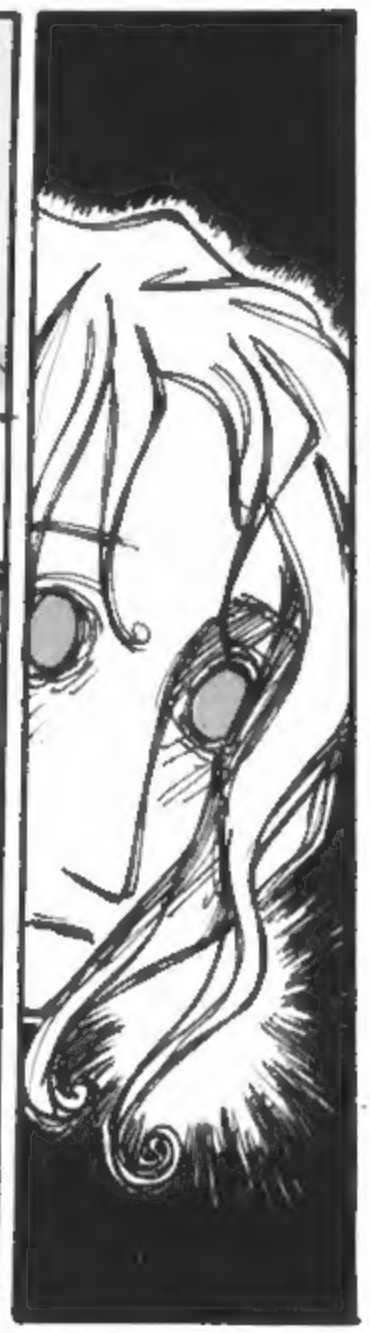
Then, it must be true.
You go to sleep now, Catherine. I will check in on you a little later.

You can remove her straps now.
She is heavily medicated. I don't think she'll cause any more trouble.
The poor thing has come to terms with what she has done.

Thank you.

I think I'll sit in that chair over there if you don't mind.

Of course.
I'll be right back with your dinner.



You're dead... I killed you!

You didn't kill anyone, Catherine.
You aren't really here!
I am here...

...living in you.

THE END

Nightmares & Fairy Tales #13 ~ June 2005

By Serena Valentino & Crab Scrambly

Annabelle tells a chilling story entitled:
1140 Rue Royale.

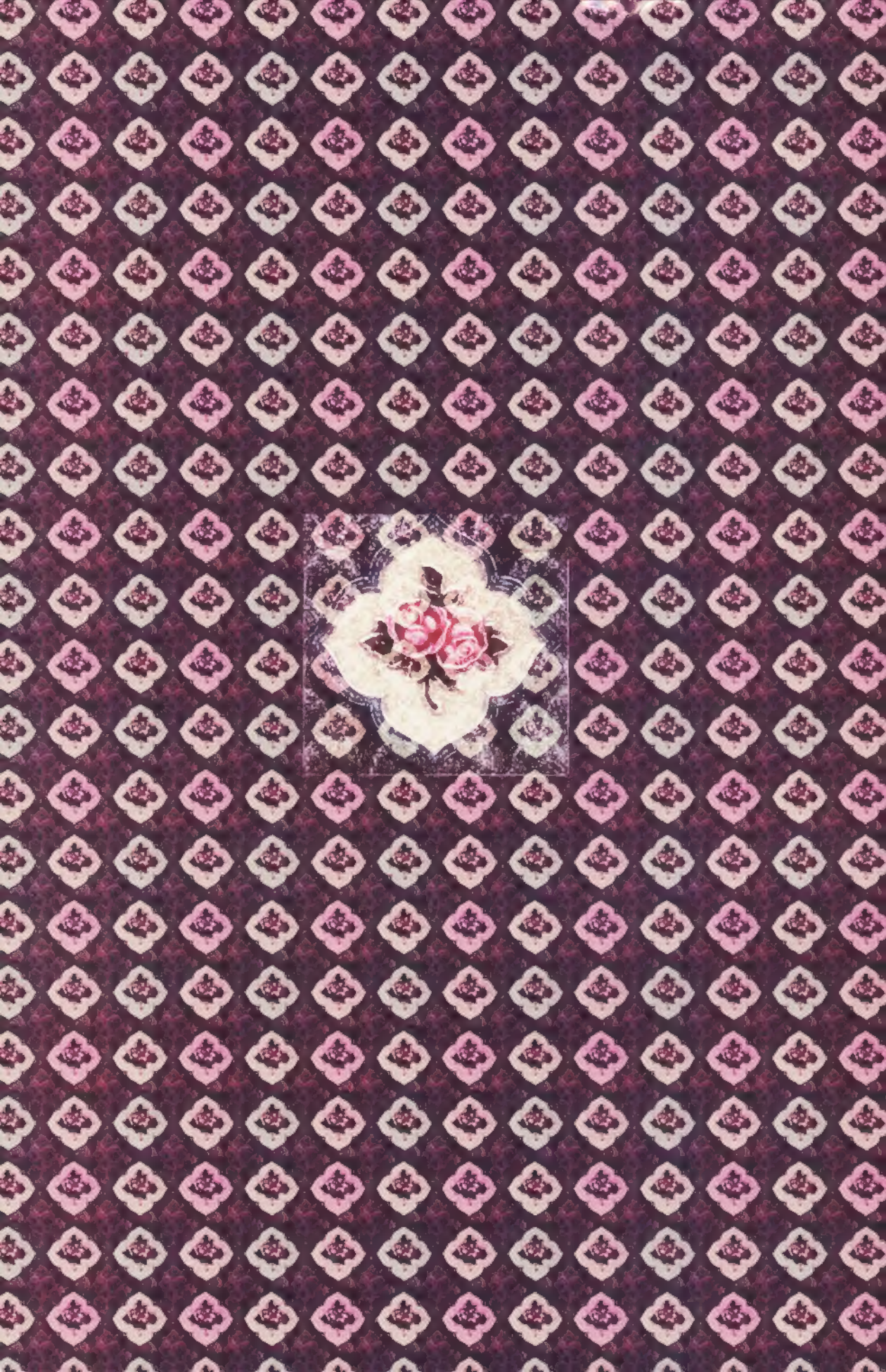
The first of a six issue story line featuring an elderly woman named Victoria who moves into a house that is haunted by the victims of horrific torture inflicted by the infamous Madame Lalaurie.

Nightmares & Fairy Tales

A Word from Serena:

I'm deeply saddened to say this is FSc's last issue of Nightmares & Fairy Tales.

When first I learned she would be moving on to do her own comic book series, I found myself struggling to envision the series without her.I've never experienced a better working relationship - I've always felt our words and art combined themselves magically in a way that previously felt unfathomable. Even now it's difficult for me to find the right words to express my respect for FSc's enormous talent. The one thing I do know is how very appreciative I feel to have had the pleasure to work with such a fine artist - and with someone who is so kind of heart, so giving and so incredibly imaginative. I wish FSc much success on her future projects and hope her life brings her all the joy and love she deserves. If Crab Scrambly hadn't agreed to take over the art for Nightmares & Fairy Tales, I'm not sure the series would have continued. It was agreed by myself, FSc and SLG that only Crab could bring the same sort of magic to the series, but in his own stylish manner. He is one of the most talented artists I know, and like FSc, a phenomenon to work with. I don't fear for Nightmares & Fairy Tales' future, I know Annabelle is in good hands, because Crab shares the same enthusiasm for the series that FSc has. Crab understands my love for the series, how close it is to me, how much it means to me and I know he won't let any of us down. I feel his art will be perfect for the darker turn the series will be taking and I am sure you will enjoy his art as much as FSc and I do.

I hope to have the opportunity to see some of you in April at APE, located in San Francisco. For more info please visit www.comic-con.org

Until then, my dears,
Serena